

## MEMORANDUM

Date: April 29, 2015

**Re:** Addendum to Add a 10-acre Parcel to the Joint Application to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission for a Site Permit and Route Permit for the North Star Solar Electric Power Generating Plant and North Star 115 kV High Voltage Transmission Line  
MPUC Docket No. IP-6943/GS-15-33

To: Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MPUC)

Cc:

From: Westwood Professional Services on behalf of North Star Solar PV LLC

This memo and attached exhibits serve as an addendum to the Joint Application to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission for a Site Permit and Route Permit for the North Star Solar Electric Power Generating Plant and North Star 115 kV High Voltage Transmission Line (“North Star Application”), MPUC Docket No. IP-6943/GS-15-33 which was accepted on April 9, 2015 as substantially complete with the review authorized under the alternative permitting process.

The purpose of this addendum is to add a 10-acre parcel of land to the North Star Solar Project area and provide all additional environmental information pertaining to that parcel required of the Site and Route Permit Application. The addition of this 10-acre parcel does not change any of the information contained in Sections 1.0 through 3.0 of the North Star Application except for the change to the overall North Star Solar Project Boundary. **Table 1** summarizes the applicable subsections in Section 4.0 (Environmental Information) of the North Star Application where there is additional or new information pertaining to the 10-acre parcel. **Attachment A** includes a revised **Figure 1** that depicts the location of the 10-acre parcel relative to the original Solar Project area. Attachment A also includes revised **Figures 3** and **7**, and revised **Appendices C-1** through **C-8** of the North Star Application to include the 10-acre parcel.

<b>Table 1. Environmental Information Changes for 10-acre Parcel</b>	
<b>Environmental Information Subsection</b>	<b>Additional Information</b>
4.1 Environmental Setting	No change
4.2.1 Public Health and Safety	No change
4.2.2 Displacement	The addition of this 10-acre parcel adds one single-family home and three accessory structures to buildings located within the Solar Project Boundary.

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4.2.3 Noise	No change
4.2.4 Radio and Television Interference	No change
4.2.5 Aesthetics	The addition of this parcel may result in a small change to the location of the perimeter fence to encompass Solar Project facilities that may be located on this parcel in the final design.
4.2.6 Socioeconomics	No change
4.2.7 Cultural Values	No change
4.2.8 Recreation	No change
4.2.9 Public Services and Infrastructure	No change
4.2.10 Land Use and Zoning	No change-The 10-acre parcel is within the city of North Branch and is zoned Agricultural.
4.3.1 Agriculture	No change. No prime farmland or farmland of statewide importance is located within the 10-acre parcel.
4.3.2 Forestry	No change. There are no forested areas within the parcel where trees are harvested for economic purposes.
4.3.3 Tourism	No change.
4.3.4 Mining	No change.
4.4 Archaeological and Historical Resources	No change. A Phase I Archaeological Survey consisting of background research and field reconnaissance was conducted on the 10-acre parcel in March, 2015 and no additional archaeological resources were identified.
4.5.1 Air	No change.
4.5.2 Geology, soils and Groundwater	No change.
4.5.3 Rivers, Streams and Lakes	No change. The 10-acre parcel was reviewed in the field for the presence of wetlands and other water resources and none were identified on the site.
4.5.4. Wetlands	No change. The 10-acre parcel was reviewed in the field for the presence of wetlands and other water resources and none were identified on the site.
4.5.5 Vegetation	No change. No Regionally Ecological Significant Areas (“RSEA”), MBS Sites of Biodiversity Significance, or

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	conservation easement lands are identified within the 10-acre parcel.
4.5.6 Wildlife	No change.
4.5.7 Rare and Unique Natural Resources	No change. The 10-acre parcel was included in the original review area conducted by the MNDNR as part of a formal NHIS data request submitted on January 20, 2015 (ERDB 20150209-0002).